Mr John Wilkins

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## THE POETICAL HISTORY OF THE PROPHET JONAH.

This is rather to be conſidered as a paraphraſe upon, than a mere verſification of the ſtory as related in the Bible. Written by Philip Freneau.

### CANTO III.

(Concluded from our laſt.)

ONCE more the voice to humbled Jonah came
Of HIM who lives through every age the ſame:
“ Ariſe, and o'er the intervening waſte
“ To Nineveh's exalted turrets haſte,
“ And what to thee my SPIRIT ſhall reveal
“ That preach---nor dare the ſacred truth conceal---
“ To deſolation I that town decree;
“ Proclaim deſtruction, and proclaim from me.”
Obedient to JEHOVAH's high command,
The Prophet roſe, and left Judea's land,
And now he near the ſpiry city drew,
(Euphrates paſs'd, and rapid Tigris too,)
So vaſt the bulk of this prodigious place
Three days were ſcant its lengthy ſtreets to trace;
But as he enter'd, on the firſt ſad day,
Thus he began his tidings of diſmay:
“ O NINEVEH! to Heaven's decree attend!
“ Yet forty days, and all thy glories end!
“ Yet forty days; the ſkies protract thy fall,
“ And deſolation then ſhall bury all,
“ Thy proudeſt towers their utter ruin mourn,
“ And domes and temples unextinguiſh'd burn!
“ O Nineveh! the GOD of armies dooms,
“ Thy thouſand ſtreets to never ending glooms:
“ Thro' mouldering fanes the hollow winds ſhall roar,
“ And vultures ſcream where monarchs lodg'd before
“ Thy guilty ſons ſhall bow beneath the ſword,
“ Thy captive matrons own a foreign lord.
“ Such is the vengeance that the heavens decree,
“ Such is the ruin that muſt bury thee!”
The people heard, and ſmit with inſtant fear,
Believ'd the fatal warnings of the ſeer:
This ſudden ruin ſo their ſouls diſtreſt,
That each with ſackcloth did his limbs inveſt,
From him that glitter'd on the regal throne,
To him that did beneath the burden groan;
Soon to their monarch came this voice of fate,
Who left his throne and coſtly robes of ſtate,
And o'er his limbs a veſt of ſackcloth drew,
And ſate in aſhes, ſorrowful to view:
His lords and nobles, now repentant grown,
With equal grief their various ſins bemoan,
And through the city ſent this loud decree,
With threatning back'd, and dreadful penalty:
“ Ye Ninivites, your wonted food refrain,
“ Nor touch, ye beaſts, the herbage of the plain,
“ Let all that live be humbled to the duſt,
“ Nor taſte the waters, though ye die of thirſt:
“ Let men and beaſts the garb of ſorrow wear,
“ And beg yon' ſkies theſe guilty walls to ſpare:
“ Let all repent the evil they purſue,
“ And curſe the miſchief that their hands would do;
“ Perhaps that GOD who leans to mercy ſtill,
“ And ſent a prophet to declare his will,
“ May yet the vengeance he deſigns, adjourn,
“ And, ere we periſh, from his anger turn.”
JEHOVAH heard, and pleas'd beheld at laſt
Their deep repentance for tranſgreſſions paſt,
With pity mov'd, he heard the earneſt prayer
Of this vaſt city, humbled in deſpair;
Though juſtly due, his anger dies away,
He bids the angel of deſtruction ſtay.
The obedient angel hears the high command,
And ſheathes the ſword he drew to ſmite the land.

### CANTO IV.

BUT anger ſwell'd the haughty prophet's breaſt,
Rage burn'd within, and robb'd his ſoul of reſt;
Such was his pride he wiſh'd they all in flame
Might rather periſh than belie his fame,
And GOD's own bolts the tottering towers aſſail,
And millions periſh, than his word ſhould fail.
Then to the heavens he ſent this peeviſh prayer,
Vain, impious man to ſend ſuch pinings there:
“ While yet within my native land, I ſtay'd,
[illegible] I ſaid:
“ Deſtruction through the Aſſyrian ſtreets to cry,
“ And then the event my miſſion falſify;
“ For this I ſtrove to ſhun thy ſight before,
“ And ſought repoſe upon a foreign ſhore;
“ I knew thou wert ſo gracious and ſo kind,
“ Such mercy ſways thy vaſt creating mind,
“ Averſe thy bolts of vengeance to employ,
“ And ſtill relenting when thou ſhouldſt deſtroy,
“ That when I had declar'd thy ſacred will,
“ Thou wouldſt not what I propheſy'd fulfil,
“ But leave me thus to ſcorn, contempt and ſhame,
“ A lying prophet, blaſted in my fame:
“ And now, I pray thee, grant my laſt requeſt,
“ O take my life, ſo wretched and unbleſt!
“ If here I ſtay, 'tis but to grieve and ſigh.
“ Then take my life--'tis better far to die.”
“ Is it thy place to ſwell with rage and pride,
“ Thus to his piring prophet, GOD reply'd;
“ Say, is it juſt thy heart ſhould burn with ire,
“ Becauſe the city is not wrapt in fire?
“ What if I chooſe its ruin to delay,
“ And ſend deſtruction on ſome future day,
“ Muſt thou, for that, with waſting anguiſh ſigh,
“ And, hoſtile to my pleaſure, wiſh to die?”
Then Jonah parted from the mourning town,
And near its eaſtern limits ſate him down,
A booth he builded with aſſiduous care,
(Form'd of the cypreſs boughs that flouriſh'd there)
And anxious now beneath their ſhadow lay,
Waiting the iſſue of the fortieth day;
As yet uncertain if the Power Divine
Or would to mercy or to wrath incline.
Meantime, the leaves that roof'd his arbour o'er,
Shrunk up and faded, ſhelter'd him no more;
But GOD ordain'd a thrifty gourd to riſe,
To ſcreen his prophet from the ſcorching ſkies;
High o'er his head aſpir'd the ſpreading leaf,
Too fondly meant to mitigate his grief,
So cloſe a foliage o'er his head was made,
That not a beam could pierce the happy ſhade!
The wondering ſeer perceiv'd the branches grow
And bleſs'd the ſhadow that reliev'd his woe;
But when the next bright morn began to ſhine
(So GOD ordain'd) a worm attack'd the vine,
Beneath its bite its goodly leaves decay,
And waſting, withering, die before the day!
But as the lamp of heaven ſtill higher roſe
From eaſtern ſkies a ſultry tempeſt blows,
The vertic ſun as fiercely pour'd his ray,
And beam'd around inſufferable day,
How beat thoſe beams on Jonah's fainting head!
How oft he wiſh'd a place among the dead!
All he could do, was now to grieve and ſigh,
His life deteſt, and beg of GOD to die.
Again, JEHOVAH to his propht ſaid,
“ Art thou ſo angry for thy vaniſh'd ſhade;
“ For a mere ſhadow doſt thou well to grieve,
“ For this poor loſs wouldſt thou thy being leave?”
“ My rage is juſt (the frantic prophet cry'd)
“ My laſt, my only comfort is deny'd--
“ The ſpreading vine that form'd my leafy bower,
“ Behold it vaniſh'd in the needful hour:
“ To beating winds and ſultry ſuns a prey
“ My fainting ſpirit droops and dies away---
“ Give me a manſion in my native duſt,
“ For though I die with rage, my rage is juſt.”
Once more the ALMIGHTY deign'd to make reply;
“ Does this loſt guord thy ſorrow ſwell ſo high,
“ Whoſe friendly ſhade not to thy toil was due,
“ Alone it ſprouted, and alone it grew;
“ A night beheld its branches waving high,
“ And the next ſun beheld thoſe branches die;
“ And ſhould not pity move the LORD of all
“ To ſpare this vaſt Aſſyrian capital,
“ Within whoſe walls uncounted myriads ſtray,
“ Their father I, my ſinful offſpring they?
“ Should they not move the great creating mind
“ With ſix ſcore thouſand of the infant kind,
“ And herds untold, that graze the ſpacious field,
“ For whom yon' meads their ſtores of fragrance yield;
“ Should I this royal city wrap in flame,
“ And ſlaughter millions to ſupport thy fame,
“ When now repentant to their GOD they turn,
“ And their paſt follies, low in aſhes, mourn?
“ Vain, thoughtleſs wretch, recal thy weak requeſt,
“ Death never came to man a welcome gueſt;
“ Why wiſh to die--what madneſs prompts thy mind,
“ Too long the days of darkne [illegible] ſhalt find;
“ Life was a bleſſing by thy Maker meant,
“ Doſt thou deſpiſe the bleſſings he has lent---
“ Enjoy my gifts while yet the ſeaſons run
“ True to their mouths, and ſocial with the ſun;
“ When to the duſt my mandate bids they fall,
“ All theſe are loſt, for death conceals them all---
“ No more the ſun illumes the ſprightly day,
“ The ſeaſons vaniſh, and the ſtars decay:
“ The trees, the flowers, no more thy ſenſe delight,
“ Death ſhades them all in ever during night.
“ Then think not long the little ſpace I lent---
“ Of thy own ſins, like Nineveh, repent;
“ Rejoice at laſt the mighty change to ſee,
“ And bare with them as I have borne with thee.”

* * *

## POLITICAL CENTINEL.

### LETTER IV.

SIR,

THE obliging manner in which you requeſt permiſſion to lay my letters before the public, merits my acknowledgments; I ſubmit the propriety thereof entirely to your own opinion of their uſefulneſs.

Reſpecting your advice, “That I ſhould in my next letters confine myſelf to ſuch things as the legiſlature have been recently engaged in, and which do, or ought to influence our preſent conduct as members of political ſociety,” ſhall be chearfully complied with, though I confeſs it deranges the plan upon which I ſet out; I am happy in agreeing with you, that the law enacted laſt ſeſſion, whereby the citizens who are indebted to the ſtate for lands held upon old warrants, or locations, are enabled to pay three fourths of theſe arrearages with funded ſecurities of this ſtate; demands a firſt place in theſe diſquiſitions, and will proceed accordingly. This caſe, as to its general nature, is ſo well underſtood, that it would be unneceſſary to give a particular ſtate thereof. I ſhall therefore confine my obſervations to thoſe leading reaſons by which the meaſure is principally ſupported; and the objections which appear to have influenced the oppoſition.

But I ſhall firſt premiſe, that when this buſineſs was taken up in the firſt ſeſſion of the preſent houſe, the quantity of thoſe public ſecurities called bills of credit, or ſtate money, emitted in the year 1781, yet unredeemed, was not aſcertained; it is well known that theſe bills of credit had a ſufficient fund, viz the arrearages due to the land office, but this fund was not preſently operative, therefore theſe ſecurities depreciated with rapidity; and went almoſt wholly, and inſtantly, into the hands of ſpeculators, who tho' they procured them at a low price, yet it was fair dealing and at that time attended with riſk; however, when in this ſituation government treated it as a peculiarly favored debt, and admitted it to the benefit of a ſufficient and operative fund, they made it receivable in direct taxes, which very ſoon appreciated the value, and leſſened the quantity thereof; but in ſome of the middle counties theſe taxes were not properly urged in, and the frontiers were exonerated; the quantity of theſe taxes therefore due in this kind of paper, not being then perfectly underſtood was the cauſe of a miſtake; thoſe who oppoſed the meaſure aſſerted boldly that there was 80,000l. or 90,000l. of it yet unprovided for; thoſe who ſupported it would not admit that there was half that amount, they all agreed that this ought to be redeemed, but the ſupporters would agree to allow only one fourth of the fund for that purpoſe; the oppoſers would have the appropriation of the whole to remain ſacred, and this was at that time their principal fort, or ſtrong ground of oppoſition; but againſt next ſeſſion the deception was diſcovered, and this ground being no longer tenable, the main body of the oppoſition ſought out and obtained other ſupport, and many of them finding they had been miſinformed joined the ſupporters. I ſhall further premiſe that thoſe who oppoſed this meaſure generally profeſſed to be willing to give longer time to make the payments in, but clogged a bill which they brought in for that purpoſe with a clauſe for vacating all the titles for non-compliance, thus with a ſtroke of the pen they would have annulled, without a ſuit at law, without trial by fury, ſuch kind of titles as were coeval with the exiſtence of Pennſylvania, but moreover giving much longer time would be giving up much of the funds, it is well known that 60 years quiet poſſeſſion gives a title in law, and that many who are in debt to the land-office have longer poſſeſſion than this already, and every year of delay will encreaſe that number: thoſe who live in the oldeſt counties and have been longeſt chargeable with delinquency will thus be moſt favored; but this bill, inadmiſſible as it was, appears to have been only a fineſſe deſigned to amuſe the people during the receſs of the houſe, and to to divert them from preſſing the other meaſure next ſeſſion, and the people appear to have ſeen it in that light, and acted accordingly, and the ſupporters of this bill ſhewed theſe ſuſpicions were well founded, by their not calling up their bill for the third reading; let it not be ſaid that the going on of the law ſince enacted, prevented them, for they had addreſs enough to keep that back till very late in the ſeſſion, and therefore had opportunities enough to have the other enacted. But what amounts to a more decided teſtimony is, that one of the greateſt arguments for poſtponement was "that by ſuch delays the people were encouraged in delinquency; that the giving year after year of delay invited the people not to pay, they would not believe government to be ſerious, that even if the law for taking certificates in pay for arrearages ſhould be enacted, it ought to be poſtponed ſix months that the officers in the mean time might do their duty, and convince the people that government was in earneſt; and that afterwards our granting a ſhort delay to ſuch as had not then paid in, or had not their lands yet ſold by the ſheriff, would have the proper effect." This was held forth in argument by ſuch as led the oppoſition, for I take no notice here of the arguments of ſuch as acknowledged in the houſe that they did not underſtand the queſtion, and therefore only re ecchoed the opinion of thoſe whom they apprehended did underſtand it.

But I ſhall now proceed to prove the propriety of the meaſure; and in the firſt place it is founded in juſtice; the funded ſecurities are not only acknowledged by the laws to be of ſpecie value, but are actually the price of a doubly valuable conſideration; the laws enabling the citizens in ſettling with each other, to balance one account with another, to pay their debt with their credit, is founded in juſtice, but that principle ought to operate higher with a ſovereign ſtate, becauſe ſo much depends upon national vi[illegible]e. It is not only juſtice in ſtrict principle, but is the beſt policy for the ſtate in its preſent ſituation: would any wiſe government have recourſe to compulſory methods with her citizens of choice? ſurely not, my ſaying this doth not imply that the people would oppoſe the laws, by no means, it only implies what is an undoubted fact, viz. that the people are not able to pay in ſpecie; he muſt be little acquainted with this country who doth not know this: I believe there is not ſo much ſpecie circulating in the counties where the delinquents principally reſide, even were it every ſhilling their own, as would pay theſe arrearages; what then would be the iſſue of compulſion? why more than half the lands in moſt counties of the ſtate would be put to ſale in a well improved condition, the few who have procured overgrown fortunes in the courſe of the late war would purchaſe moſt of them, and probably at a lower price than would pay the debt due to the land office, and the delinquents (who it is worth obſerving, are almoſt all of them whigs) muſt ſubmit to be their tenants; no, ſir, few of them would do this. The moſt independent of them at leaſt would ſeek for an independent ſituation in the wilds of ſome other ſtate, and leave Pennſylvania where their attachment lay, their ſervices were done, and ſupplies rendered, not without heart felt diſguſt; and their places would be occupied by a number of dependents from Europe, or other ſtates, who, without being attached to Pennſylvania would be dependent upon their landlords, and vote by their direction; thus would our independence and equality be overturned: this is the moſt allevious iſſue which the meaſures of the oppoſers of the new law led to.

But there is another reſult which, tho' not ſo obvious, is with me more probable, and that is, the people would purchaſe in their own lands; government can ſend the ſheriff to ſell the lands of the delinquents; but cannot oblige people to purchaſe: the majority in moſt counties are delinquents, and if things were puſhed to this iſſue, the reſt of the people impreſſed with the unneceſſary diſtreſs of their neighbours, would ſympathiſe with them, who then would purchaſe? the citizens at large? no, they would not, it would be highly diſgraceful, and the agents of wealthy ſpeculators would not be permitted; what then remains but that the delinquents by themſelves, or their friends would purchaſe it at what price they pleaſed, and the ſtate would probably loſe ninety-five pounds out of an hundred. So the people would be ſecured in their titles, the fund loſt, and the public debt remain unpaid.

There is another and worſe alternative, but not ſo probable, therefore I ſhall paſs it.

The propriety of the above law is evident by examining the progreſs of payments made hitherto; twelve thouſand pounds per annum is the average amount of what hath been paid of theſe arrearages for ſeveral years paſt, but it is a great miſtake to reckon upon that for time to come; the people now know that the bills of credit of 1781, is by about 15,000 more than provided for by direct taxes, and that tho' theſe taxes are not yet all paid in, yet theſe bills of credit are nearly at par, the laſt year brought in very little indeed of thoſe arrearages; ſuppoſing the time to have been continued without admitting certificates in whole or part payment, I would not expect 6,000l. per annum; but ſuppoſing the higheſt that any of the oppoſers of the new mode propoſe, what would it amount to? Let us ſtate the whole arrearages at 400,000l. (though it is probably more) and the annual intereſt 24,000l. therefore the higheſt annual payment which the moſt confident ſeem to depend upon is equal to only half the yearly intereſt, conſequently the people will be going further in debt, at the rate of another 12,000l. yearly, is this the way to have theſe debts paid off, and the titles of land put on one footing? certainly not. But on the other hand, ſuppoſing the people enabled to make a proper uſe of the means which they have in their power, and if they are unreaſonably negligent let a few examples be made, and then we will find in a very ſhort time 12,000l. of yearly intereſt ſucceed to the ſtate; the people would in this way ſoon diſcharge this debt which now both diſpirits and burthens them, and the commonwealth would be eaſed of one eighth, probably one ſixth of her whole debt; and the annual intereſt thus ſaved would enable government to eſtabliſh ſuch a ſinking fund as would in a reaſonable time honorably extinguiſh the whole public debt, and put our national credit in the mean time on ſo reſpectable a footing as would render us formidable to our foes.

But it is objected that it is dealing unjuſtly with the public creditors, as it goes to pay ſome in preference to others, that we ought not to begin to pay any until we could pay all, or elſe we ought to pay by inſtalments. Let us examine this objection a little, how can we pay by inſtalments unleſs it were firſt ſtipulated in the original contract, as it is with ſome of the foreign debts? if we could alter the bargain in this reſpect we might in any other; might we not then diſſolve the contract altogether? Altering the bargain in any reſpect is an exerciſe of arbitrary power. But upon hearing of this objection one would be induced to think the public creditors are againſt the new law, but juſt the reverſe is the truth; though by ſuch arguments they, as it were, was invited to oppoſe it, yet when the ſecond ſeſſion came on they generally appeared to be for the meaſure, and not one of them in that character appeared againſt it; and their conduct was founded on very ſufficient reaſons, they know thoſe arrearages are the moſt effective fund the ſtate can command; they know alſo that we have no proſpect of paying off all our debts at once, and that this fund prudently managed would eventually pay the whole of it, and that in the mean time thoſe whom it doth not ſuit, or who do not chooſe to part with their ſecurities, will have their intereſt the more promptly paid; but further a ſyſtem or ſettled plan ought not to be lightly departed from. the new law is only a proſecution of our former ſyſtem of paying our public debts. In the year 1780, £.100,000 was emitted, funded upon lands, viz. Province iſland, &c. Theſe bills of credit, or funded ſecurities carried intereſt, and have been redeemed by the ſales appropriated for that purpoſe. In 1781 there was iſſued £.486,500, to be redeemed by the arrearages of the price of lands held by warrants or locations, theſe bills of credit or public ſecurities are now moſtly paid off; above £.60,000 of them was burnt laſt ſeſſion, the little that is yet in circulation is fully provided for. There was 1,495,000 dollars of bills of credit emitted in the year 1780, for the redemption of which Congreſs indorſed themſelves as ſecurity; theſe ſecurities bear intereſt, and as well as the other went moſt inſtantly out of the hands of the original [illegible]ers at a very depreciated value, and they have [illegible]o been moſtly paid off with the intereſt, and wh[illegible]mains is ſo ſufficiently provided for by the arrearages due to the laſt provincial loan-office, that it hath been at par for ſome time paſt. The price of lands ſold by improvements in all parts of the ſtate, together with the unappropriated lands, have been ſet apart to the redemption of public ſecurities generally, and is the only fund which ſome kind of ſecurities yet reſt upon. Houſes and lots to a conſiderable value in Philadelphia, &c. have been ſold for depreciation and other certificates; was this paying by inſtallments, or was it paying all equally, or all at once, certainly it was not, it was paying in the degree, and manner which correſponded beſt with the mutual conveniency of both government and the public creditors; and it was this conduct that hath given any confidence that yet remains in government. The public creditors are ſo far from thinking themſelves injured by this law, that they conſider it as greatly in their favour, not only as a preſent relief, but as a teſtimony that government deſigns to be honeſt: this meritorious claſs of citizens, who have put their property, and many of them their all, in truſt to our political virtue, rejoice at every exertion of this public virtue, and every thing that hath a tendency to encreaſe the reſpectability of government increaſes their ſecurity, conſequently in all countries public creditors are eſteemed the moſt firm and ſteady friends to government, they have a double pledge at ſtake.

But the objection of which the oppoſers of the new law ſeem to triumph moſt in remains to be examined; they urged in the houſe, and argued out of doors, even ſince the law is paſſed, that if the funded ſecurities are made receivable for debts due to the land office, we muſt, upon the ſame principle, admit the payment of every branch of the revenue to be made in the ſame manner; but how doth this appear? only by unſupported aſſertion; it ſtands refuted by experience, and is unſupportrd by principle. I have ſtated above, that it hath been the invariable ſyſtem of Pennſylvania ſince the revolution, to apply the price of real property, whether houſes or lands, and whether it was confiſcated property, or otherwiſe, belonging to the commonwealth, towards the redeeming one kind of public ſecurities or another; none of it hath been applied to any other uſe, and when, in ſome inſtances, it hath failed, it hath been aided with direct taxes or additional property; witneſs the depreciation, and the bills of 1781. In the inſtance now before us, the aid of direct taxes was ſo abundant and productive, that after the redemption is compleated there remains a great amount of the fund to be appropriated to ſome other uſe; and what in the name of honeſty ought we to do with it? ought we not to apply it to the redemption of public ſecurities? what could induce us to be ſo punctual in paying the ſecurities of 1781, which was almoſt totally in the hands of ſpeculators, and upon which we were paying no intereſt? Nothing but political honeſty, which is as far as can be attained to equal honeſty; but is there any reaſon why the leavings of that fund ſhould not be applied to the redemption of thoſe ſecurities upon which we are paying intereſt half yearly? why, ſay the objectors, it is a dangerous precedent; how ſophiſtical the reaſoning; it is in fact no precedent at all; it is going in the accuſtomed tract; it is proſecuting a ſettled ſyſtem; it is acting upon our precedented and eſtabliſhed principles.

This objection is refuted by experience; though we have been long receiving certificates, not only for the purpoſe mentioned above, but alſo in many counties even for militia fines, yet the people have never once petitioned government to be permitted to pay certificates for any taxes, impoſt or exciſe, which was by law to be paid in money, and which money was appropriated to other ſpecial uſes; no, they have not even done it ſince they have been at leaſt indirectly invited to do it by the declamations of the oppoſers of the new law on that head; they petitioned for what they knew was reaſonable, and what is conſiſtent with the intereſt of government to grant them, and they have urged until their requeſt was granted; had they aſked what was improper, the legiſlature would have informed them of the impropriety of their requeſt, and diſmiſſed their petition, and the people would have been contented. It is ſhameful for repreſentatives to inſult the underſtandings of the people, and to arraign their virtue without provocation; the above being the moſt plauſible objections that hath been offered. I ſhall conclude with ſtating one other view of this caſe, which, though not new to you, is of great weight in deciding the propriety of the meaſure: it is an uncertain and precarious debt; there are, as I obſerved above, a variety of ways in which compulſory meaſures may be defeated; the debt hath paſſed thro' many hands, and the debtors are numerous and reſpectable, and being moſtly whigs, are accuſtomed to oppoſe unneceſſary ſeverities; if it was therefore the intereſt of government in the mildeſt method they could conſiſtent with juſtice, to leſſen the number of thoſe who would have an intereſt in evading the execution of the laws; every man who once patents his land, hath a common intereſt with the ſtate in enabling, and compelling others to do ſo. The delay, as things at preſent ſtand, is attended with partiality and injuſtice, and the partiality is in favor of the delinquents; for you will pleaſe to obſerve, ſir, that arrearages on locations of the lateſt date, now amount to above double the principal ſum, therefore, as the debts due to the land office pay ſimple intereſt upon the purchaſe money only, the arrearages due upon locations, taking it upon an average, doth not pay more than 2l. 15s. per cent. upon the amount; and the old warrants, upon which they generally ſurveyed two or three times as much as the warrant called for, will average conſiderably under two per cent. therefore, we have about 400,000l. as it were, lent out on intereſt at little, if any, more than two per cent. whilſt we are paying ſix per cent. for not only the debts incurred by the war, but even to the proprietary on the ſum due him for theſe very arrearages; thus the delinquents have an advantage ery, ſuch kind of titles as were coeval with the exiſtence of Pennſylvania, but moreover giving much longer time would be giving up much of the funds, it is well known that 60 years quiet poſſeſſion gives a title in law, and that many who are in debt to the land-office have longer poſſeſſion than this already, and every year of delay will encreaſe that number: thoſe who live in the oldeſt counties and have been longeſt chargeable with delinquency will thus be moſt favored; but this bill, inadmiſſible as it was, appears to have been only a fineſſe deſigned to amuſe the people during the receſs of the houſe, and to to divert them from preſſing the other meaſure next ſeſſion, and the people appear to have ſeen it in that light, and acted accordingly, and the ſupporters of this bill ſhewed theſe ſuſpicions were well founded, by their not calling up their bill for the third reading; let it not be ſaid that the going on of the law ſince enacted, prevented them, for they had addreſs enough to keep that back till very late in the ſeſſion, and therefore had opportunities enough to have the other enacted. But what amounts to a more decided teſtimony is, that one of the greateſt arguments for poſtponement was "that by ſuch delays the people were encouraged in delinquency; that the giving year after year of delay invited the people not to pay, they would not believe government to be ſerious, that even if the law for taking certificates in pay for arrearages ſhould be enacted, it ought to be poſtponed ſix months that the officers in the mean time might do their duty, and convince the people that government was in earneſt; and that afterwards our granting a ſhort delay to ſuch as had not then paid in, or had not their lands yet ſold by the ſheriff, would have the proper effect." This was held forth in argument by ſuch as led the oppoſition, for I take no notice here of the arguments of ſuch as acknowledged in the houſe that they did not underſtand the queſtion, and therefore only re eccho-ed the opinion of thoſe whom they apprehended did underſtand it.

But I ſhall now proceed to prove the propriety of the meaſure; and in the firſt place it is founded in juſtice; the funded ſecurities are not only acknowledged by the laws to be of ſpecie value, but are actually the price of a doubly valuable conſideration; the laws enabling the citizens in ſettling with each other, to balance one account with another, to pay their debt with their credit, is founded in juſtice, but that principle ought to operate higher with a ſovereign ſtate, becauſe ſo much depends upon national virtue. It is not only juſtice in ſtrict principle, but is the beſt policy for the ſtate in its preſent ſituation: would any wiſe government have recourſe to compulſory methods with her citizens of choice? ſurely not, my ſaying this doth not imply that the people would oppoſe the laws, by no means, it only implies what is an undoubted fact, viz. that the people are not able to pay in ſpecie; he muſt be little acquainted with this country who doth not know this: I believe there is not ſo much ſpecie circulating in the counties where the delinquents principally reſide, even were it every ſhilling their own as would pay theſe arrearages; what then would be the iſſue of compulſion? why more than half the lands in moſt counties of the ſtate would be put to ſale in a well improved condition, the few who have procured overgrown fortunes in the courſe of the late war would purchaſe moſt of them, and probably at a lower price than would pay the debt due to the land office, and the delinquents (who it is worth obſerving, are almoſt all of them whigs) muſt ſubmit to be their tenants; no, ſir, few of them would do this. The moſt independent of them at leaſt would ſeek for an independent ſituation in the wilds of ſome other ſtate, and leave Pennſylvania where their attachment lay, their ſervices were done, and ſupplies rendered, not without heart felt diſguſt; and their places would be occupied by a number of dependents from Europe, or other ſtates, who, without being attached to Pennſylvania would be dependent upon their landlords, and vote by their direction; thus would our independence and equality be overturned: this is the moſt allevious iſſue which the meaſures of the oppoſers of the new law led to.

But there is another reſult which, tho' not ſo obvious, is with me more probable, and that is, the people would purchaſe in their own lands; government can ſend the ſheriff to ſell the lands of the delinquents; but cannot oblige people to purchaſe: the majority in moſt counties are delinquents, and if things were puſhed to this iſſue, the reſt of the people impreſſed with the unneceſſary diſtreſs of their neighbours, would ſympathiſe with them, who then would purchaſe? the citizens at large? no, they would not, it would be highly diſgraceful, and the agents of wealthy ſpeculators would not be permitted; what then remains but that the delinquents by themſelves, or their friends would purchaſe it at what price they pleaſed, and the ſtate would probably loſe ninety-five pounds out of an hundred. So the people would be ſecured in their titles, the fund loſt, and the public debt remain unpaid.

There is another and worſe alternative, but not ſo probable, therefore I ſhall paſs it.

The propriety of the above law is evident by examining the progreſs of payments made hitherto; twelve thouſand pounds per annum is the average amount of what hath been paid of theſe arrearages for ſeveral years paſt, but it is a great miſtake to reckon upon that for time to come; the people now know that the bills of credit of 1781, is by about 15,000 more than provided for by direct taxes, and that tho' theſe taxes are not yet all paid in, yet theſe bills of credit are nearly at par, the laſt year brought in very little indeed of thoſe arrearages; ſuppoſing the time to have been continued without admitting certificates in whole or part payment, I would not expect 6,000l. per annum; but ſuppoſing the higheſt that any of the oppoſers of the new mode propoſe, what would it amount to? Let us ſtate the whole arrearages at 400,000l. (though it is probably more) and the annual intereſt 24,000l. therefore the higheſt annual payment which the moſt confident ſeem to depend upon is equal to only half the yearly intereſt, conſequently the people will be going further in debt, at the rate of another 12,000l. yearly, is this the way to have theſe debts paid off, and the titles of land put on one footing? certainly not. But on the other hand, ſuppoſing the people enabled to make a proper uſe of the means which they have in their power, and if they are unreaſonably negligent let a few examples be made, and then we will find in a very ſhort time 12,000l. of yearly intereſt ſucceed to the ſtate; the people would in this way ſoon diſcharge this debt which now both diſpirits and burthens them, and the commonwealth would be eaſed of one eighth, probably one ſixth of her whole debt; and the annual intereſt thus ſaved would enable government to eſtabliſh ſuch a ſinking fund as would in a reaſonable time honorably extinguiſh the whole public debt, and put our national credit in the mean time on ſo reſpectable a footing as would render us formidable to our foes.

But it is objected that it is dealing unjuſtly with the public creditors, as it goes to pay ſome in preference to others, that we ought not to begin to pay any until we could pay all, or elſe we ought to pay by inſtalments. Let us examine this objection a little, how can we pay by inſtalments unleſs it were firſt ſtipulated in the original contract, as it is with ſome of the foreign debts? if we could alter the bargain in this reſpect we might in any other; might we not then diſſolve the contract altogether? Altering the bargain in any reſpect is an exerciſe of arbitrary power. But upon hearing of this objection one would be induced to think the public creditors are againſt the new law, but juſt the reverſe is the truth; though by ſuch arguments they, as it were, was invited to oppoſe it, yet when the ſecond ſeſſion came on they generally appeared to be for the meaſure, and not one of them in that character appeared againſt it; and their conduct was founded on very ſufficient reaſons, they know thoſe arrearages are the moſt effective fund the ſtate can command; they know alſo that we have no proſpect of paying off all our debts at once, and that this fund prudently managed would eventually pay the whole of it, and that in the mean time thoſe whom it doth not ſuit, or who do not chooſe to part with their ſecurities, will have their intereſt the more promptly paid; but further a ſyſtem or ſettled plan ought not to be lightly departed from. the new law is only a proſecution of our former ſyſtem of paying our public debts. In the year 1780, £.100,000 was emitted, funded upon lands, viz Province Iſland, &c. Theſe bills of credit, or funded ſecurities carried intereſt, and have been redeemed by the ſales appropriated for that purpoſe. In 1781 there was iſſued £.486,500, to be redeemed by the arrearages of the price of lands held by warrants or locations, theſe bills of credit or public ſecurities are now moſtly paid off; above £.60,000 of them was burnt laſt ſeſſion, the little that is yet in circulation is fully provided for. There was 1,495,000 dollars of bills of credit emitted in the year 1780, for the redemption of which Congreſs indorſed themſelves as ſecurity; theſe ſecurities bear intereſt, and as well as the other were moſt inſtantly out of the hands of the original owners at a very depreciated value, and they have [illegible] been moſtly paid off with the intereſt, and what remains is ſo ſufficiently provided for by the arrearages due to the laſt provincial loan-office, that it hath been at par for ſome time paſt. The price of lands ſold by improvements in all parts of the ſtate, together with the unappropriated lands, have been ſet apart to the redemption of public ſecurities generally, and is the only fund which ſome kind of ſecurities yet reſt upon. Houſes and lots to a conſiderable value in Philadelphia, &c. have been ſold for depreciation and other certificates; was this paying by inſtallments, or was it paying all equally, or all at once, certainly it was not, it was paying in the degree, and manner which correſponded beſt with the mutual conveniency of both government and the public creditors; and it was this conduct that hath given any confidence that yet remains in government. The public creditors are ſo far from thinking themſelves injured by this law, that they conſider it as greatly in their favour, not only as a preſent relief, but as a teſtimony that government deſigns to be honeſt: this meritorious claſs of citizens, who have put their property, and many of them their all, in truſt to our political virtue, rejoice at every exertion of this public virtue, and every thing that hath a tendency to encreaſe the reſpectability of government increaſes their ſecurity, conſequently in all countries public creditors are eſteemed the moſt firm and ſteady friends to government, they have a double pledge at ſtake.

But the objection of which the oppoſers of the new law ſeem to triumph moſt in remains to be examined; they urged in the houſe, and argued out of doors, even ſince the law is paſſed, that if the funded ſecurities are made receivable for debts due to the land office, we muſt, upon the ſame principle, admit the payment of every branch of the revenue to be made in the ſame manner; but how doth this appear? only by unſupported aſſertion; it ſtands refuted by experience, and is unſupportrd by principle. I have ſtated above, that it hath been the invariable ſyſtem of Pennſylvania ſince the revolution, to apply the price of real property, whether houſes or lands, and whether it was confiſcated property, or otherwiſe, belonging to the commonwealth, towards the redeeming one kind of public ſecurities or another; none of it hath been applied to any other uſe, and when, in ſome inſtances, it hath failed, it hath been aided with direct taxes or additional property; witneſs the depreciation, and the bills of 1781. In the inſtance now before us, the aid of direct taxes was ſo abundant and productive, that after the redemption is compleated there remains a great amount of the fund to be appropriated to ſome other uſe; and what in the name of honeſty ought we to do with it? ought we not to apply it to the redemption of public ſecurities? what could induce us to be ſo punctual in paying the ſecurities of 1781, which was almoſt totally in the hands of ſpeculators, and upon which we were paying no intereſt? Nothing but political honeſty, which is as far as can be attained to equal honeſty; but is there any reaſon why the leavings of that fund ſhould not be applied to the redemption of thoſe ſecurities upon which we are paying intereſt half yearly? why, ſay the objectors, it is a dangerous precedent; how ſophiſtical the reaſoning; it is in fact no precedent at all; it is going in the accuſtomed tract; it is proſecuting a ſettled ſyſtem; it is acting upon our precedented and eſtabliſhed principles.

This objection is refuted by experience; though we have been long receiving certificates, not only for the purpoſe mentioned above, but alſo in many counties even for militia fines, yet the people have never once petitioned government to be permitted to pay certificates for any taxes, impoſt or exciſe, which was by law to be paid in money, and which money was appropriated to other ſpecial uſes; no, they have not even done it ſince they have been at leaſt indirectly invited to do it by the declamations of the oppoſers of the new law on that head; they petitioned for what they knew was reaſonable, and what is conſiſtent with the intereſt of government to grant them, and they have urged until their requeſt was granted: had they aſked what was improper, the legiſlature would have informed them of the impropriety of their requeſt, and diſmiſſed their petition, and the people would have been contented. It is ſhameful for repreſentatives to inſult the underſtandings of the people, and to arraign their virtue without provocation; the above being the moſt plauſible objections that hath been offered. I ſhall conclude with ſtating one other view of this caſe, which, though not new to you, is of great we[illegible] deciding the propriety of the meaſure: it is an uncertain and precarious debt; there are, as I obſerved above, a variety of ways in which compulſory meaſures may be defeated; the debt hath paſſed thro' many hands, and the debtors are numerous and reſpectable, and being moſtly whigs, are accuſtomed to oppoſe unneceſſary ſeverities; if it was therefore the intereſt of government in the mildeſt method they could conſiſtent with juſtice, to leſſen the number of thoſe who would have an intereſt in evading the execution of the laws; every man who once patents his land, hath a common intereſt with the ſtate in enabling, and compelling others to do ſo. The delay, as things at preſent ſtand, is attended with partiality and injuſtice, and the partiality is in favor of the delinquents; for you will pleaſe to obſerve, ſir, that arrearages on locations of the lateſt date, now amount to above double the principal ſum, therefore, as the debts due to the land office pay ſimple intereſt upon the purchaſe money only, the arrearages due upon locations, taking it upon an average, doth not pay more than 2l. 15s. per cent. upon the amount; and the old warrants, upon which they generally ſurveyed two or three times as much as the warrant called for, will average conſiderably under two per cent. therefore, we have about 400,000l. as it were, lent out on intereſt at little, if any, more than two per cent. whilſt we are paying ſix per cent. for not only the debts incurred by the war, but even to the proprietary on the ſum due him for theſe very arrearages; thus the delinquents have an advantage of about four per cent. probably about 16,000*l.* per ann. againſt the ſtate; is not this political injuſtice? would not this ſum, that is loſt to government, annually make a reſpectable ſinking fund? certainly it would. As this is no chimera, but an undoubted fact, ought we not to meet the wiſhes, not of the delinquents only, but of our citizens generally, and ſecure this fund in the only way that is practicable, and remove this unfavorable ſituation of our finances, in the moſt agreeable and ſpeedy way in our power; the new law goes far to the accompliſhing this end, and with thoſe who do not avail themſelves of the means thereby put in their option, government will ſtand juſtified in uſing ſeverities. Upon the whole, this law may have ſome defects, yet it is founded in political virtue, and regulated by thoſe rules of moderation and juſtice, which is ſuitable to the nature and ſpirit of our government. But the powerful and perſevering oppoſition made to it, was as unexpected as it was alarming; ſome of thoſe who led the oppoſition are certainly poſſeſſed of experience and underſtanding in the financing buſineſs, and they conſtantly profeſſed the oppoſition aroſe from zeal for the faith and juſtice of the ſtate, and in order the more effectually to ſupport our appropriated funds, it was probably deſigned by them to compel the payments to be made in ſpecie, as it was firſt contracted, and with the money ariſing therefrom, to redeem immediately as much as poſſible of the public ſecurities, and from the annual intereſt thus ſaved, to eſtabliſh a ſinking fund, that would eventually redeem the whole public debt; and this plan would anſwer very well, if it was practicable, but the great miſtake is about the peoples ability to pay the money, and the danger of loſing the fund; men who derive their knowledge of financing from mercantile experience, cannot conceive it would diſtreſs a farmer to raiſe a few ſcores of pounds upon demand, as they themſelves are rarely diſtreſſed for leſs than thouſands: and it was merchants, who from their own neceſſary habits think delay of payment is criminal, that led the oppoſition; but, ſir, you and I know, that delay of paying for land was not reckoned diſgraceful under the Penn family, and it will require conſiderable wiſdom to correct the evil habits.

Thus, ſir, I have communicated to you ſuch information as occurred to me upon this important buſineſs. I have ſtated the arguments as nearly as I could in the ſame manner they were made uſe of in the legiſlature, and my informers are ſuch as I can depend upon; you will obſerve, that it is chiefly a ſtate of facts, and of principles tried by experiments, and not a doubtful fine ſpun theory, never reduced to practiſe; therefore upon reading it, people can judge for themſelves. I am, ſir, your's &c.

## *Pittſburgh*, July 14.

The 4th inſtant, being the anniverſary of American Independence, was announced by the ſalute of 13 cannon. A number of gentlemen of this town, joined by ſome accidental travellers, met at the houſe of Meſſrs. Tannehills, where an elegant entertainment was prepared. After the cloth was removed, the following Toaſts were drank, accompanied with a diſcharge of cannon to each, viz.

1. The Day
2. The United States in Congreſs
3. The Convention
4. General Waſhington
5. Doctor Franklin and the State of Pennſylvania
6. His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty
7. The United Netherlands
8. The Memory of thoſe Heroes who fell in defence of America
9. The Marquis De la Fayette
10. Colonel Harmar and the Standing Army
11. General Mifflin, Speaker, and the Legiſlature of Pennſylvania
12. Comte de Rochambeau and the French Army, who fought in defence of America
13. Succeſs to Pittſburgh, and a Free Navigation to the Weſtern Country.

The day was celebrated with mirth and good humour, and cloſed with the utmoſt harmony and decorum.

### Account of the Engagenent at Germantown. By the Marquis De Chaſtellux, from his Travels in North-America, lately tranſlated and publiſhed.

FEARFUL leſt the pleaſures of Capua, ſhould make me forget the campaigns of Hannibal and of Fabius, I determined to get on horſe back on the ſecond of December, to viſit the field of battle of Germantown. Many recollect, that after the defeat of Brandywine, in 1777, the American army, not thinking proper to defend Philadelphia, retired up the Schuylkill, whilſt the Engliſh took poſſeſſion, without reſiſtance, of the capital of Pennſylvania.--- Elated with their ſucceſs, and full of that confidence which has invariably deceived them, they had divided and diſperſed their forces; the greateſt part of their troops encamped upon the Schuylkill, four miles from Philadelphia; another diviſion occupied Germantown eight miles to the northward of that place, and they ſent a conſiderable detachment to Billingſport, to favour the paſſage of their fleet, which was making fruitleſs endeavours to get up the Delaware. Thus circumſtanced, general Waſhington tho't it was time to remind the Engliſh, that there ſtill exiſted an American army. One is at a loſs, whether moſt to extol the ſage intrepidity of the chief, or the reſolution diſplayed by his army in making an attack on the ſame troops, whoſe ſhock they were unable to ſuſtain a month before. Germantown is a long town, or village, conſiſting of a ſingle ſtreet. From the firſt houſe at the ſouth, to the laſt at the north end of the town, it is near two miles and an half. The Engliſh corps which occupied, or rather covered it, was encamped near the laſt houſes to the northward, and ſo ſituated, as that the ſtreet, or main road, interſected the camp at right angles. This body might amount to three or four thouſand men. General Waſhington, who occupied a poſition at ten miles diſtance, on Skippack creek, left his camp towards midnight, marching in two columns, one of which was to turn Germantown on the eaſtward, the other on the left; two brigades of the right column were ordered to form the corps de reſerve, to ſeparate themſelves from that column at the inſtant of the attack, and follow the main ſtreet of Germantown. A very thick fog come on, favorable to the march of the enemy, but which rendered the attack more difficult, as it became impoſſible to concert the movements, and extend the troops. The militia marched on the right and left, without the two columns, not being committed in the affair, and always ſkirting the woods on the Frankfort ſide, as well as on that of the Schuylkill. General Waſhington halted a moment before day light at a croſs road, diſtance only half a mile from the picket, or advanced poſt of the enemy. There he learnt from an Engliſh dragoon, who was intoxicated, and had loſt his way, that the Billingſport detachment was returned. This unexpected intelligence did not change the general's project; he continued his march at the head of the right column, and fell upon the Engliſh picket, who were ſurpriſed, put to rout, and driven to the camp, where they brought the firſt news of the arrival of the Americans. The troops flew to arms, and precipitately fell back, leaving their tents ſtanding, and abandoning all their baggage. This was a moment not to be loſt, and French troops certainly would have availed themſelves of it; nay, it would have been difficult to prevent them either from purſuing the enemy too far, or from diſperſing to plunder the camp. It is here we may form a judgment of the American character. Perhaps this army, notwithſtanding the ſlowneſs of its manoeuvres, and its inexperience in war, may merit the praiſes of the Europeans. General Sullivan, who commanded the column on the right, calmly and ſlowly formed the three brigades a-head; and after ranging them in order of battle, he traverſed the Engliſh camp, without a ſingle ſoldier ſtopping for plunder: he advanced in this manner, leaving the houſes on the left, and driving before him all reſiſtance from the gardens and incloſures; he penetrated into the town itſelf, and was ſome time engaged with the troops, who defended a ſmall ſquare near the market.

Whilſt every thing thus ſucceeded on the right, general Waſhington, at the head of the reſerve, was expecting to ſee his laſt column arrive, and purſued his march by the main ſtreet; but a fire of muſquetry, which proceeded from a large houſe within piſtol ſhot of the ſtreet, ſuddenly checked the van of his troops. It was reſolved to attack this houſe, but cannon were neceſſary, for it was known to be ſtone, and could not therefore be ſet fire to. Unfortunately they had only ſix pounders; the chevalier Dupleſſis Mauduit, brought two pieces near another houſe, 200 paces from the former. This cannonade produced no effect, it penetrated the walls, but did not beat them down.

The chevalier de Mauduit, full of that ardour, which, at the age of 16, made him undertake a journey into Greece, to view the fields of Platea and Thermopylæ, and at 20, to go in ſearch of laurels in America; reſolved to attack by main force this houſe, which he was unable to reduce by cannon. He propoſed to colonel Laurens to take with him ſome determined men, and get ſome ſtraw and hay from a barn to ſet fire to the principal door. One may conceive ſuch an idea preſenting itſelf to two ſpirited young men; but it is ſcarcely credible, that of theſe two noble adventrous youths, one ſhould be at preſent on his way to France, and the other in good health at Newport.[*] M. de Mauduit, making no doubt that they were following him with all the ſtraw in the barn went ſtraight to a window on the ground floor, which he forced, and on which he mounted. He was received in truth, like the lover, who mounting a ladder to ſee his miſtreſs, found the huſband waiting for him on the balcony. I do not know whether, like him too, on being aſked what he was doing there, he anſwered, "I am only taking a walk;" but this I know, that whilſt a gallant man, with a piſtol in his hand, deſired him to ſurrender, another leſs polite entering briſkly into the chamber, fired a muſket ſhot, which killed, not M. de Mauduit, but the officer who wiſhed to take him. After theſe ſlight miſtakes, and this little quarrel, the difficulty was for them to retire. On one hand he muſt be expoſed to a ſmart fire from the firſt and ſecond floor; on the other, a part of the American army were ſpectators, and it would have been ridiculous to return running. M. de Mauduit, like a true Frenchman, choſe rather to expoſe himſelf to death than ridicule; but the balls reſpected our prejudices; he returned ſafe and ſound, and Mr. Laurens, who was in no greater haſte than he, eſcaped with a ſlight wound in his ſhoulder. I muſt not here omit a circumſtance, which proves the precarious tenure of a military exiſtence. General Waſhington thought, that on ſummoning the commander of this poſt, he would readily ſurrender; it was propoſed to M. de Mauduit, to take a drum with him and make this propoſal: but on his obſerving that he ſpoke bad Engliſh, and might not perhaps be underſtood, an American officer was ſent, who being preceded by a drum, and diſplaying a white handkerchief, it was imagined, would not incur the ſmalleſt riſk; but the Engliſh anſwered this officer only by a muſket ſhot, and killed him on the ſpot.

(To be concluded in our next.)

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Pittſburgh, July 13, 1787.

JUST opening for ſale, at the ſubſcribers ſtore, at the houſe of Andrew Watſon, tavern-keeper, Front-ſtreet, two doors above Market-ſtreet, a neat and general aſſortment of DRY GOODS and GROCERIES, which they will ſell on the moſt reaſonable terms for caſh, furs, flour, rye, oats, or ginſeng; for the latter a generous price will be given, part in money and part goods.

JOHN & SAM. COLHOUN.

N. B. All thoſe indebted to the above company are deſired to make payment on or before the firſt day of Auguſt next to the ſubſcriber, or he will be under the diſagreeable neceſſity of putting their accounts into the hands of an attorney.

SAMUEL COLHOUN.

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THE ſubſcriber lent Ferguſon's Lectures to ſome perſon who is not now recollected; it is requeſt whoever has it will pleaſe to return it.

WILLIAM WATSON.

Pittſburgh, July 13, 1787.

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STRAYED from the ſubſcriber, living in Pittſburgh, a black Mare, about fourteen hands and an half high, a natural trotter, ſwitch tail, the mane hangs to the right ſide, a little hump-backed, about 11 years old. Whoever takes up ſaid Mare, and delivers her to the ſubſcriber ſhall receive Two Dollars Reward, paid by me

LAUGHLIN M'CLAIN.

June 13, 1787.

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John Wilkins & Co.

HAVE juſt received at their ſtore in Pittſburg, a general aſſortment of GOODS, adapted to the country and ſeaſon, which they will ſell on the loweſt terms, for caſh, peltry, or country produce.

A generous price given in caſh or merchandiſe for good ginſang.

Pittſburgh, July 5, 1787.

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ALL perſons indebted to the late houſe of ANDREW MITCHELL & CO. are requeſted to make payment to the ſubſcriber, only, on or before the firſt day of Auguſt next, enſuing, as every account unſettled after that date, will be put into the hands of an attorney.

WILLIAM TILTON.

Who has for ſale, on very low terms, Three Stills, containing 140, 115, and 80 gallons; alſo one boiler, containing 115 gallons, with flake ſtands and maſh tubs, &c.

Pittſburgh, June 25, 1787.

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[*] Mr. Laurens has ſince fallen a victim to his too inconſiderate valour; he was killed in Carolina, in a ſkirmiſh of little importance, a ſhort time before the ſigning of the peace.

# GEORGE TUDOR,

## BROKER,

At his office on the north ſide of Cheſnut-ſtreet, five doors above Fourth-ſtreet, Philadelphia.

BUYS, ſells, and exchanges every kind of continental and ſtate paper, or public ſecurities of this ſtate or any other in the union. Furniſhes certificates and ſtate money for the land office, on as reaſonable terms as can be afforded. Procures money on loan to any amount, provided the ſecurity is ſatisfactory, and every kind of transferable property, real and perſonal, diſpoſed of to the beſt advantage.

The different branches of the buſineſs of a broker are tranſacted with fidelity, diſpatch, and punctuality equal to any other broker.

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*CERTIFICATES for the LAND OFFICE*

*MAY be had of the ſubſcriber, at his office on the north ſide of Market-ſtreet, two doors below Fourth ſtreet and directly oppoſite that part of the market lately built, where every perſon applying may be furniſhed with the exact ſum they may have occaſion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by*

*THOMAS FORREST.*

*Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.*

*Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.*

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AN OFFICE

For the Purchaſe and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Alſo Houſes, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the eaſt ſide of Second ſtreet, between Market and Cheſnut ſtreets, ſeven doors below Black Horſe-alley, Philadelphia. Who furniſhes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commiſſion.

All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office. or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury.

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FOR SALE, BY

ROBERT BROWN,

At the houſe of Mr. James Chambers, in Pittſburgh.

A General aſſortment of pot metal and iron; alſo a quantity of dry goods, rum, wine, and ſalt, which will be ſold on the loweſt terms for caſh or country produce.

N. B. Ginſeng wanted.

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# Conveyancing.

AGREEMENTS, Aſſignments, Awards, Bargains and Sales, Bills of Sale, Bonds, Covenants, Deeds, Grants, Leaſes, Letters of Attorney, Letters of Licence, Mortgages, Partnerſhip, Releaſes, Settlements, Wills, &c. &c. Drawn by the ſubſcriber at his office in Chancery-lane, Pittſburgh, at a moderate price.

June 4. ROBERT GALBRAITH.

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POST-OFFICE,

Philadelphia, March 2, 1787

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT in conſequence of a contract entered into for that purpoſe, there will ſhortly be a regular communication by poſt, between the town of Alexandria, in Virginia, and Pittſburg, in this ſtate, by the route of New-Gate, Leeſburgh, Wincheſter, Fort Cumberland, and Bedford. The mail will be carried weekly from May 1ſt to November 1ſt: and once a fortnight the remainder of the year. This eſtabliſhment will take place, as ſoon as the neceſſary arrangements can be made.

If any perſon inclines to form a more direct communication between this city and Fort-Pitt, by carrying a mail regularly from this office to Bedford, ſo as to tally with the Virginia poſt, that route may now be contracted for upon advantageous terms---as the excluſive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, between this city and Bedford, and all the emoluments ariſing therefrom, will be granted for any term, not exceeding ſeven years, to any perſon undertaking the buſineſs at his own expence, and giving ſatisfactory ſecurity for performance.

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WHEREAS my wife Catharine Clevedence, has for ſome time paſt behaved in an unbecoming manner, this is to forwarn all perſons from truſting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

JOHN CLEVEDENCE.

Pittſburgh, June 27, 1787.

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# Abraham Uſher,

At the ſign of the SPINNING WHEEL, in Mercer's town, Franklin county, Pennſylvania;

HAS FOR SALE,

A well choſen aſſortment of European, and Eaſt and Weſt India Goods, cheap for caſh or country produce: Amongſt which are:

BRitiſh and German oſnaburghs
Brown rolls, and Ruſſia drillings
Ruſſia ſheetings, white & brown
9-8 wide Iriſh ſheetings, white and brown
5-4 & 6-4 Iriſh ſheetings, white
34. 7-8, 4-4 Iriſh linens of all prices
Brown Holland and ſeliſias
Dowlaſſes & Huckabacks
Striped linen, holland and cotton do.
Shirting and apron checks
Corduroys, thickſets, and Velverets
Mohair, pluſh, and worſted ſhags
Pillow fuſtians,
Jeans and Jeannets
Satinets, denims & printed jeanets
Everlaſtings, and princes' ſtuffs
Prunellas
Bed ticks and bed bunts
Britannias, lawns & cambricks
Humhums
Catgut
Kentings
Kenting handkerchiefs & aprons
Striped ſpotted and plain gauzes
Gauze handkerchiefs and aprons
Jaconet and book muſlin
Chintzes, calicoes, cottons and printed linens
Marſeilles quilting, plain & bordered
Plain and corded dimity
Printed linen and cotton handkerchiefs
Check and romal ditto
Bandano, luteſtring, muſlin and ſilk ditto
Black and pink pee ongs
Black and white ſilk cravats
Modes, perſians, luteſtrings and ſattins
Painted and plain ribands
Sattin and paduaſoy hair ribands
Sewing ſilk, ſcarf and mohair twiſt
Baſket, death head and mohair buttons
Broad and narrow bindings and tapes
Garterings and ferretings
Thread edgings and laces
Black and white ſilk lace
Silk and thread ſtay laces
Womens black & coloured ſilk mits and gloves
Mens and womens kid, beaver, and waſh leather gloves of all colours
Womens calimanco and everlaſting ſhoes
Mens and womens leather ditto
Mens and boys felt hats
Mens beaver and caſtor ditto
Womens ſilk hats and cloaks
Hunters & ſwitch whips
Mens and womens thread and cotton hoſe
Mens and boys brown thread ditto
Mens and womens ſilk do.
Stuff, calimanco, and durant quilts
Leghorn and chip hats
Stays; fans; & ſhirt buttons
Moreens, calimancoes & durants
Striped figured and plain Camelots
Rattinets, tammies, and ſhalloons
Buckrams, paſteboards & whalebone
Scotch ounce thread of all numbers
Nankins
Coloured threads
Superfine, ſecond & coarſe broadcloths
3-4, 4-4, 5-4, 6-4, and 8-4 bath coatings, twilled and plain
Bearſkins, duffils & blankets
Plains, half thicks, kerſeys, and kendal cottons
Green, red, blue & white penniſtons
Swanſkins; baizes
Spotted rugs
Red, white, and ſcarlet flannels
Pewter plates, diſhes, teapots and baſons of all ſizes
Hardware, cutlery and ironmongery, aſſorted
Stationary & ſaddlery aſſorted
Queens ware and pencil'd ware aſſorted
Window glaſs
Salt Rum, brandy & gin of all prices
Sugar, coffee, tea and chocolate
Ginger, pepper and allſpice
Rice, mace, cloves, nutmegs and cinnamon
Almonds, raiſins, figs and prunes
Madder, allum, copperas and indigo
Saltpetre, antimony and muſtard
Logwood and Redwood
Glaubers ſalts, ſulphur, creamer tartar, & brimſtone
Snuff, ſmoaking-tobacco, and pigtail
Powder, &c. &c.

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THE Partnerſhip of D. BRITT & Co. having expired on the firſt inſtant, all thoſe who are indebted to the ſaid company are requeſted to make immediate payment, and thoſe who have any claims againſt them are deſired to produce their accounts for a ſettlement.

Thoſe indebted to the late partnerſhip of Craig, Bayard, & Co. are alſo called upon to ſettle their accounts; as no longer indulgence can be granted, and their accounts ſhall be put in ſuit by the fifteenth of next July, if not ſettled before that day.

**Turnbull, Marmie, & Co.**

Pittſburg, June 20, 1787.

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## BARNABAS M'SHANE,

Who has for ſome time paſt kept the Inn in Black Horſe Alley, is now removed to that old and commodious Tavern,

## The Harp and Crown,

In Third Street.

HE begs leave to ſolicit the favors of his friends and the public in general, and aſſures thoſe gentlemen who formerly frequented that houſe and the Harp & Crown, that every accommodation, both for themſelves and horſes. ſhall be furniſhed in the beſt and moſt careful manner, and on the moſt reaſonable terms.

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CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, on the 1ſt of May laſt, a black Horſe, 12 years old, a ſmall bell, hung round its neck with a leather ſtrap, a natural trotter. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

JOHN WALLACE

Waſhington county, June 22, 1787.

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FROM official information, Meſſrs. Nevill and Ritchie learned they were to be ſuperſeded as deputy ſurveyors, the firſt day of this preſent June, before which time, this tranſaction was reconſidered, upon which they were continued deputy ſurveyors within their former diſtrict. June 20.

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## Forty Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from my command at Venango, the following deſcribed perſons, viz.

James Robinſon, five feet eight inches high, well made, twenty-three years old, fair, freſh complexion, ſandy hair, born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Patrick Colbert, five feet, five inches high; well proportioned, dark complexion, black hair ſhort and curly, born in Ireland.

James Mortimer, five feet 5 inches high, dark complexion, ſhort black hair, born in the ſtate of New-York.

Michael Heneſy, five feet 9 inches high, a robuſt looking fellow, brown hair, a little freckled, pitted with the ſmall pox; born in Ireland.

Whoever ſecures the above deſerters, ſo that they may be brought to me at Venango, ſhall receive the above reward, or in proportion for either of them.

JONATHAN HEART, capt. 1ſt American Regiment, in the ſervice of the U. S.

---

CAME to the place of the ſubſcriber, in Waſhington county, at the ferry oppoſite Pittſburgh, ſome time in March laſt, a black Mare, neither brand nor ear mark, between twelve and thirteen hands high, about ſeven or eight years old, the hoof of the off hind foot crooked. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, and take her away. MARCUS HULING.

July 5.

# GEORGE TUDOR,

## BROKER,

At his office on the north ſide of Cheſnut-ſtreet, five doors above Fourth-ſtreet, Philadelphia.

BUYS, ſells, and exchanges every kind of continental and ſtate paper, or public ſecurities of this ſtate or any other in the union. Furniſhes certificates and ſtate money for the land office, on as reaſonable terms as can be afforded. Procures money on loan to any amount, provided the ſecurity is ſatisfactory, and every kind of transferable property, real and perſonal, diſpoſed of to the beſt advantage.

The different branches of the buſineſs of a broker are tranſacted with fidelity, diſpatch, and punctuality equal to any other broker.

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*CERTIFICATES for the LAND OFFICE*

*MAY be had of the ſubſcriber, at his office on the north ſide of Market-ſtreet, two doors below Fourth ſtreet and directly oppoſite that part of the market lately built, where every perſon applying may be furniſhed with the exact ſum they may have occaſion for in the land-office, and their warrants carried through without any other charge than the fees of the different offices, by*

*THOMAS FORREST.*

*Who buys and ſells all kinds of CERTIFICATES of this ſtate, or any of the United States.*

*Philadelphia, Sept. 2, 1786.*

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AN OFFICE

For the Purchaſe and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Alſo Houſes, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the eaſt ſide of Second ſtreet, between Market and Cheſnut ſtreets, ſeven doors below Black Horſe-alley, Philadelphia. Who furniſhes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commiſſion.

All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office, or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury.

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FOR SALE, BY
ROBERT BROWN,

At the houſe of Mr. James Chambers, in Pittſburgh.

A General aſſortment of pot metal and iron; alſo a quantity of dry goods, rum, wine, and ſalt, which will be ſold on the loweſt terms for caſh or country produce.

N. B. Ginſeng wanted.

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# Conveyancing.

AGREEMENTS, Aſſignments, Awards, Bargains and Sales, Bills of Sale, Bonds, Covenants, Deeds, Grants, Leaſes, Letters of Attorney, Letters of Licence, Mortgages, Partnerſhip, Releaſes, Settlements, Wills, &c &c. Drawn by the ſubſcriber at his office in Chancery-lane, Pittſburgh, at a moderate price.

June 4. ROBERT GALBRAITH.

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POST-OFFICE,
Philadelphia, March 2, 1787

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT in conſequence of a contract entered into for that purpoſe, there will ſhortly be a regular communication by poſt, between the town of Alexandria, in Virginia, and Pittſburg, in this ſtate, by the route of New-Gate, Leeſburgh, Wincheſter, Fort Cumberland, and Bedford. The mail will be carried weekly from May 1ſt to November 1ſt: and once a fortnight the remainder of the year. This eſtabliſhment will take place, as ſoon as the neceſſary arrangements can be made.

If any perſon inclines to form a more direct communication between this city and Fort-Pitt, by carrying a mail regularly from this office to Bedford, ſo as to tally with the Virginia poſt, that route may now be contracted for upon advantageous terms—as the excluſive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, between this city and Bedford, and all the emoluments ariſing therefrom, will be granted for any term, not exceeding ſeven years, to any perſon undertaking the buſineſs at his own expence, and giving ſatisfactory ſecurity for performance.

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WHEREAS my wife Catharine Clevedence, has for ſome time paſt behaved in an unbecoming manner, this is to forwarn all perſons from truſting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

JOHN CLEVEDENCE.

Pittſburgh, June 27, 1787.

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# Abraham Uſher,

At the ſign of the SPINNING WHEEL, in Mercer's town, Franklin county, Pennſylvania;

FOR SALE,

A well choſen aſſortment of European, and Eaſt and Weſt India Goods, cheap for caſh or country produce: Amongſt which are:

British and German oſnaburghs
Brown rolls, and Ruſſia drillings
Ruſſia ſheetings, white & brown
9-8 wide Iriſh ſheetings, white and brown
5-4 & 6-4 Iriſh ſheetings, white
34, 7-8, 4-4 Iriſh linens of all prices
Brown Holland and ſeliſias
Dowlaſſes & Huckabacks
Striped linen, holland and cotton do.
Shirting and apron checks
Corduroys, thickſets, and Velverets
Mohair, pluſh, and worſted ſhags
Pillow fuſtians,
Jeans and Jeannets
Satinets, denims & printed jeanets
Everlaſtings, and princes' ſtuffs
Prunellas
Bed ticks and bed bunts
Britannias, lawns & cambricks
Humhums
Catgut
Kentings
Kenting handkerchiefs & aprons
Striped ſpotted and plain gauzes
Gauze handkerchiefs and aprons
Jaconet and book muſlin
Chintzes, callicoes, cottons and printed linens
Marſeilles quilting, plain & bordered
Plain and corded dimity
Printed linen and cotton handkerchiefs
Check and romal ditto
Bandano, luteſtring, muſlin and ſilk ditto
Black and pink peelongs
Black and white ſilk cravats
Modes, perſians, luteſtrings and ſattins
Painted and plain ribands
Sattin and paduaſoy hair ribands
Sewing ſilk, ſcarf and mohair twiſt
Baſket, death head and mohair buttons
Broad and narrow bindings and tapes
Garterings and ferretings
Thread edgings and laces
Black and white ſilk lace
Silk and thread ſtay laces
Womens black & coloured ſilk mits and gloves
Mens and womens kid, beaver, and waſh leather gloves of all colours
Womens calimanco and everlaſting ſhoes
Mens and womens leather ditto
Mens and boys felt hats
Mens beaver and caſtor ditto
Womens ſilk hats and cloaks
Hunters & ſwitch whips
Mens and womens thread and cotton hoſe
Mens and boys brown thread ditto
Mens and womens ſilk do.
Stuff, calimanco, and durant quilts
Leghorn and chip hats
Stays; fans; & ſhirt buttons
Moreens, calimancoes & durants
Striped figured and plain Camblets
Rattinets, tammies, and ſhalloons
Buckrams, paſteboards & whalebone
Scotch ounce thread of all numbers
Nankins
Coloured threads
Superfine, ſecond & coarſe broadcloths
3-4, 4-4, 5-4, 6-4, and 8-4 bath coatings, twilled and plain
Bearſkins, duffils & blankets
Plains, half thicks, kerſeys, and kendal cottons
Green, red, blue & white penniſtons
Swanſkins; baizes
Spotted rugs
Red, white, and ſcarlet flannels
Pewter plates, diſhes, teapots and baſons of all ſizes
Hardware, cutlery and ironmongery, aſſorted
Stationary & ſaddlery aſſorted
Queens ware and pencil'd ware aſſorted
Window glaſs
Salt Rum, brandy & gin of all prices
Sugar, coffee, tea and chocolate
Ginger, pepper and allſpice
Rice, mace, cloves, nutmegs and cinnamon
Almonds, raiſins, figs and prunes
Madder, allum, copperas and indigo
Saltpetre, antimony and muſtard
Logwood and Redwood
Glaubers ſalts, ſulphur, creamer tartar, & brimſtone
Snuff, ſmoaking-tobacco, and pigtail
Powder, &c. &c.

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THE Partnerſhip of D. BRITT & Co. having expired on the firſt inſtant, all thoſe who are indebted to the ſaid company are requeſted to make immediate payment, and thoſe who have any claims againſt them are deſired to produce their accounts for a ſettlement.

Thoſe indebted to the late partnerſhip of Craig, Bayard, & Co. are alſo called upon to ſettle their accounts; as no longer indulgence can be granted, and their accounts ſhall be put in ſuit by the fifteenth of next July, if not ſettled before that day.

**Turnbull, Marmie, & Co.**

Pittſburg, June 20, 1787.

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# BARNABAS M'SHANE,

Who has for ſome time paſt kept the Inn in Black Horſe Alley, is now removed to that old and commodious Tavern,

## The Harp and Crown,

In Third Street.

HE begs leave to ſolicit the favors of his friends and the public in general, and aſſures thoſe gentlemen who formerly frequented that houſe and the Harp & Crown, that every accommodation, both for themſelves and horſes, ſhall be furniſhed in the beſt and moſt careful manner, and on the moſt reaſonable terms.

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CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, on the 1ſt of May laſt, a black Horſe, 12 years old, a ſmall bell, hung round its neck with a leather ſtrap, a natural trotter. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

JOHN WALLACE

Waſhington county, June 22, 1787.

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FROM official information, Meſſrs. Nevill and Ritchie learned they were to be ſuperſeded as deputy ſurveyors, the firſt day of this preſent June, before which time, this tranſaction was reconſidered, upon which they were continued deputy ſurveyors within their former diſtrict. June 20.

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## Forty Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from my command at Venango, the following deſcribed perſons, viz.

James Robinſon, five feet eight inches high, well made, twenty-three years old, fair, freſh complexion, ſandy hair, born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Patrick Colbert, five feet, five inches high; well proportioned, dark complexion, black hair ſhort and curly, born in Ireland.

James Mortimer, five feet 5 inches high, dark complexion, ſhort black hair, born in the ſtate of New-York.

Michael Heneſy, five feet 9 inches high, a robuſt looking fellow, brown hair, a little freckled, pitted with the ſmall pox; born in Ireland.

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MARCUS HU[illegible]

July 5.